

Appln No. 10/816,396
Amdt date June 15, 2009
Reply to Office action of January 13, 2009

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office action dated January 13, 2009, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7, 11-15, 17-22 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious over Diederich, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,117,101) in view of one or more of Abele (U.S. Patent No. 5,860,974), Webster, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 5,772,590)("Webster '590"), Edwards, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,471,982), and Webster, Jr. (U.S. Patent No. 6,183,463)("Webster '463"). However, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 32 to recite a proximal location sensor mounted proximal the ablation assembly, and a distal location sensor mounted distal the ablation assembly. None of Diederich, Abele, Webster '590, Edwards and Webster'463 teach or suggest these features. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 32, and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2-4, 7, 11-15, 17-22, 31, 33, and new claims 34 and 35, are allowable over Diederich, Abele, Webster '590, Edwards and Webster'463.


Also, Applicant has added new claims 34 and 35 reciting that when the ablation assembly is in the collapsed configuration, portions of the ribbon electrode are tucked inward between the tensile members. None of Diederich, Abele, Webster '590, Edwards and Webster'463 teach or suggest such a feature. Therefore, new claims 34 and 35 are allowable over Diederich, Abele, Webster '590, Edwards and Webster'463.

Claims 1-4, 7, 11-15, 17-22 and 31-35 are now pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 32 to place the claims in condition for allowance, and added new claims 34 and 35. The amendments and new claims find full support in the original specification, claims and drawings, and no new matter is presented. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of pending claims 1-4, 7, 11-15, 17-22 and 31-35 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests

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reconsideration and a timely indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's counsel at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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